

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAL-01 OIC-02 /127 W
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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9435

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4325

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS MO

SUBJECT: LOS: FOLLOWUP ON MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY

REF: (A) STATE 190812, (B) RABAT 4229, (C) RABAT 4172

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR MADE FOLLOW-UP PRESENTATION TO FONMIN LARAKI ON LOS. FONMIN ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFERENCES IN APPROACHES BUT HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THEY WOULD BE RESOLVED. MFA OFFICIAL WHO WILL HEAD GOM DELEGATION TO NEW YORK REITERATED THE GOM'S POSITIONS ON KEY OUTSTANDING ISSUES, ENDING BY SUGGESTING THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME GIVE IN HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITIONS ON MARINE RESEARCH AND SEABEDS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE AMBASSADOR CALLED ON FONMIN LARAKI AUG 7 TO MAKE PRESENTATION INSTRUCTED BY REFTEL A. THE FONMIN HAD BEEN BRIEFED AND ALLUDED BRIEFLY IN HIS RESPONSE TO ALL OF THE POINTS WHICH WERE IDENTIFIED AS PROBLEM AREAS IN THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE. LARAKI CONCURRED THAT THOSE ITEMS AGREED
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UPON IN THE RSNT SHOULD NOT BE UNDONE AT THIS SESSION, AND HE

TOO SHARED THE SECRETARY'S HOPE THAT THIS SESSION WOULD REALIZE A DEFINITIVE CONCLUSION TO ALL OF THE MAJOR POINTS OUTSTANDING. HE SAID HE DID NOT PLAN TO ATTEND HIMSELF, BUT WE SHOULD INFORM SECRETARY KISSINGER THAT IF IT BECAME NECESSARY FOR HIM TO GO AFTER THE COLOMBO MEETING HE WOULD BE WILLING TO DO SO.

3. THERE WAS A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE, WHICH LARAKI ACKNOWLEDGED POSED SOME PROBLEMS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES' POSITIONS. HE DID NOT FEEL (AS HIS LEGAL DIVISION CHIEF HAD SUGGESTED IN REFTEL B) THAT IT WAS MERELY A QUESTION OF SEMANTICS. NEVERTHELESS, HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT DIFFERENCES COULD BE RESOLVED.

4. EMBOFF FOLLOWED UP AUGUST 9 WITH THE MFA'S LEGAL AND TREATIES DIVISION CHIEF, MUSTAPHA GHARBI. BHARBI REMARKED THAT THE COMMITTEE II TEXT WOULD BEST BE LEFT AS IS IN THIS SESSION. ON SEABEDS, HE VACILLATED BACK AND FORTH FROM THE RIGID THIRD WORLD POSITION THAT THE ENTERPRISE SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO ALL RESOURCES, TO ENDING UP ACCEDING THAT THERE WOULD PROBABLY BE A TRIAL PERIOD IN WHICH INDUSTRIAL NATIONS WOULD BE ALLOCATED SOME ZONES TO EXPLOIT WITH THE ENTERPRISE EXPLOITING OTHER ZONES. HE STRESSED THAT THIS WOULD BE A TRIAL PERIOD, SAYING THAT THERE WAS NO REASON TO EXPECT THAT THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD COULD OR SHOULD SUDDENLY CREATE IN BIBLICAL (SIC) FASHION A LAW OF THE SEA WHICH WOULD NOT NEED SOME ADJUSTING. THE QUESTION OF COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES WAS NOT DISCUSSED AT ANY LENGTH GIVEN OUR DIFFERENCES ON THE ECONOMIC ZONE AND THE INTERRELATION BETWEEN THESE QUESTIONS.

5. GHARBI'S MOST INTERESTING REMARK CAME AT THE END OF DISCUSSIONS ON THE STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE AND ON RESEARCH WITHIN THE ZONE, IN WHICH HE HAD STUCK TO THE GOM'S WELL-KNOWN POSITION. HE SAID THAT THE ONLY POSSIBLE RESOLUTION OF THE POTENTIAL DEADLOCK ON THE ECONOMIC ZONE WAS A "PACKAGE DEAL". THE U.S. WOULD HAVE TO GIVE A LITTLE ON THIS HIGHLY VOLATILE ISSUE, HE SAID, IF A TREATY WAS TO BE HAD. IN RETURN, HE SAID HE THOUGHT THIRD WORLD CONCESSIONS WERE POSSIBLE ON THE QUESTION OF MARINE RESEARCH, AND HE INDICATED HE WOULD BE WILLING TO WORK TO OBTAIN SUCH CONCESSIONS IN ORDER TO REALIZE

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PROGRESS, IF THE U.S. SHOWED FLEXIBILITY ON THE ECONOMIC ZONE. EMBOFF CHOSE TO LEAVE THIS TO THE U.S. LOS EXPERTS TO EXPLORE.

6. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE WE HAVE UNDERLINED THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THIS MATTER. WHETHER THE GOM COMES AROUND ON THE STICKY POINTS STILL OUTSTANDING DEPENDS TO A LARGE DEGREE ON WHAT OTHERS IN THE 77 DO.

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